

Music development plan summary: Merley First School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Chloe Parkin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	BCP Sound storm
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

Curriculum intent statement:

- At Merley, music develops our pupils imagination and creativity, we provide opportunities for them to learn through music as well as about it. Pupils develop their understanding of the musical elements and learn how music is structured by listening to music from different cultures and eras. They learn to use the technical vocabulary for these elements and as their confidence builds they enjoy the performance and compositional aspects of music.
- There is a whole school curriculum in place which clearly maps progress and skills across the key stages. Additional aspects are embedded into the planning such as whole class instrumental music, school performances and special musical events
- There are regular timetabled curriculum music lessons in all years plus other provision which totals 1 hour per week for all children (can include singing assemblies etc)
- Our class teachers are experts in adapting our curriculum to meet the needs of children with additional needs and/or disabilities, and these bespoke adaptations ensure that music can be enjoyed by all.
- The Model Music Curriculum inspired our curriculum, which is informed by the non-statutory National Curriculum Guidance.
- Children have the opportunity to sing within lessons and in assemblies. Children have the opportunity to learn, play and hone their skills with the glockenspiel as part of weekly music lessons, but we also have access to class sets of recorders and ukuleles.
- Class teachers record progress using video/audio recordings or written notes to assess
- Children have the opportunity to play a musical instrument in the EYFS outdoor area, in Forest School sessions and in lessons.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

- Children have opportunities to work with experts from BCP Soundstorm.
- All pupils have the opportunity to listen to professional musicians, again through links with BCP Soundstorm.
- We would like the opportunity to see musical performances at Allenbourn Middle School.

Part C: Musical Performances

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

- Children sing together all or most weeks as part of a singing assembly and celebration assembly
- There are opportunities during the year for the children to perform to others. All performances put on by the school are free for parents.
- The pupils in Year 4 perform to a community group.
- We perform at community events such as Midday Music Box in Wimborne Minster and at the Lantern Church to Mixed Blessing group.
- All children have opportunity to experience live music over the course of the school year from a visiting music group.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

- Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 2 This will continue.
- Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice. This will continue.
- Links with Middle School's to show where the children can aspire to be in their musical learning journey.
- We also want to train and upskill teaching staff in their ability and confidence when teaching improvisation and composition, including using staff notation at an age appropriate level.